ABSTRACT

The invention relates to file identification, authentication, and verification, including time and digital signature. A user sends a file(s) to a remote server for authentication by having the remote server perform a digital signature routine and a time stamp routine. In an alternative embodiment the user's system performs at least the digital signature routine, and the digital signature is sent to the remote server without having to send the file itself. In either case, the resulting digital signature and time stamp are archived. If the file is later corrupted, recalculation of the digital signature of an altered file will not match the original digital signature. If the true date is altered in any way, recalculation of the date will reveal this fact. If the recalculated value matches the recorded value, the file can be verified as being recorded on the specified date and has not been altered since that time.

NY2 - 285696.02